# FALLS CHURCH GATEWAY 500-520 NORTH WASHINGTON STREET | CITY COUNCIL - PLANNING COMISSION WORK SESSION







#### **AKRIDGE Awards**







- DC Mayor's Award for Historic Preservation
- Momentum Award- recognizing a shared Vision with the city for healthy, robust, and economic development
- Award of Excellence for Best Urban Office over 150,000SF











- The Office Building of the Year (TOBY) awarded by the Apartment and Office Building Association (AOBA)
- Seven time winner of national Community Impact Award for Client Service Community
- Finalist in Ethics Award competition
- Awarded by RealComm for best Use in Automation in Property Management.

### CUNNINGHAM | QUILL ARCHITECTS

### Awards and Recognition











CATON'S WALK WASHINGTON DC



TAKOMA WALK
TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND



HERNDON SENIOR CENTER HERNDON VA



THE ALTA WASHINGTON, DC

# Meetings with City of Falls Church, Community and Recognition

June '05: 1. First meeting with Planning Staff

June '06: 2. First Joint Worksession with City Council & Planning Commission

July '06: 3. Project recognized by Smart Growth Alliance

July - August '06: 4. Community meetings with Gresham Place and Jefferson Street

October '06: 5. Application study scoping meeting with Planning Staff

March '07: 6. Community Benefits meetings with City Staff

May '07: 7. Draft Rezoning & Special Exceptions Application submitted for review

July '07: 8. Rezoning & Special Exceptions Application submitted

September '07: 9. Second Joint Worksession with City Council & Planning Commission

November '07: 10. Revisions to redevelopment plan submitted for review

March - May '08: 11. Community Benefits meetings with City Staff

July '08 12. Third Joint Worksession with City Council & Planning Commission

### Historic Research: Evolution of Place



Electric trolley station and steam railroad station. East Falls Church, circa 1900.

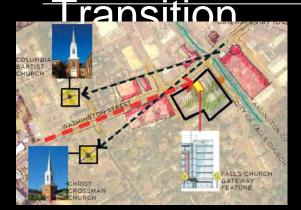


East Falls Church Railroad Station Circa 1900



Falls Church garage, Lee Highway at Four Mile Run East Falls Church, 1917.

# Existing Site Context | Gateway Transition







**EXISTING BUILDINGS ON SITE** 

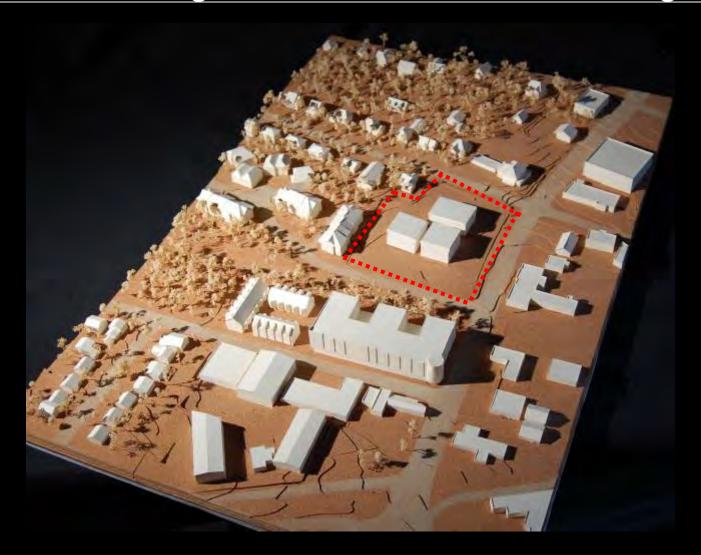


PROXIMITY TO METRO

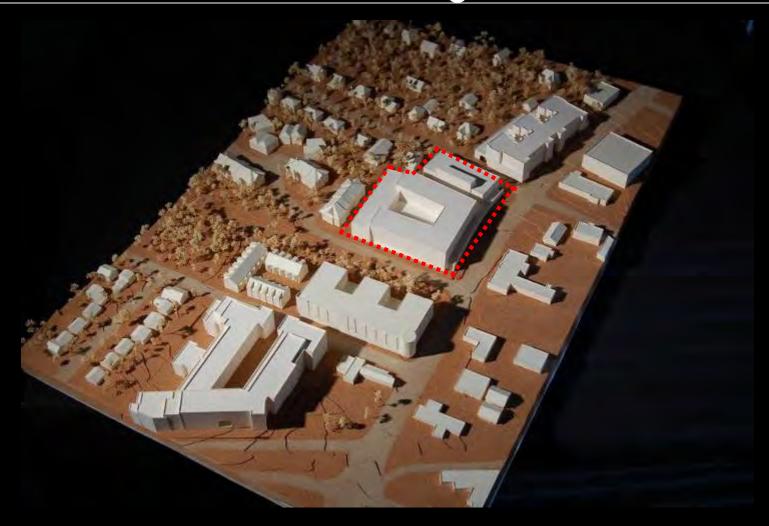


GATEWAY ENTRY TO CITY ILLUSTRATING AXIAL VIEWSHEDS TO VILLAGE STEEPIES

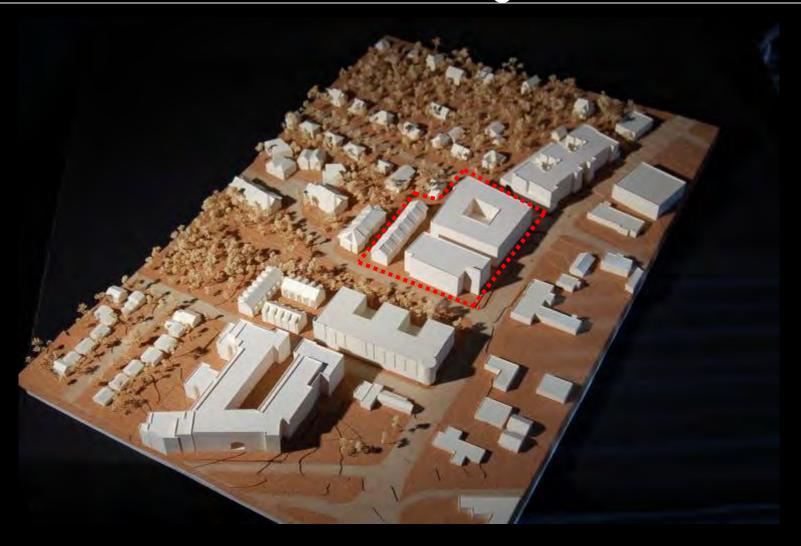
# **Existing Conditions Site Massing**



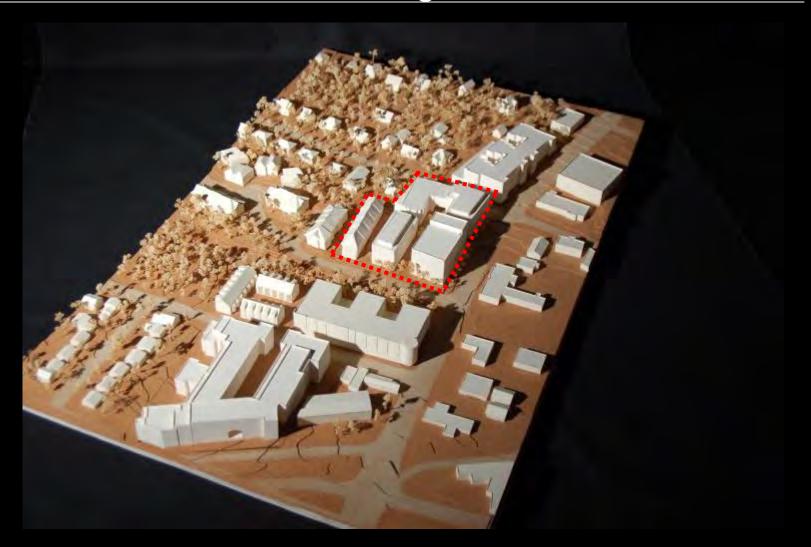
# First Massing Model



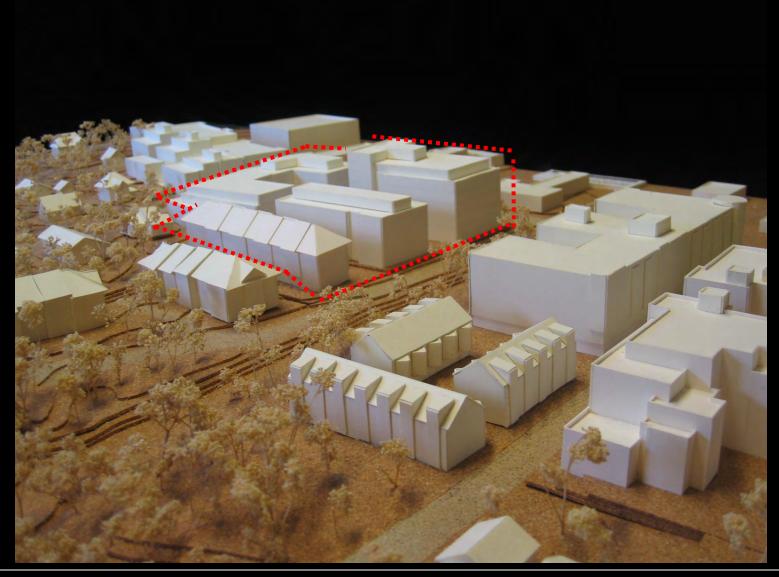
# Second Massing Model



# Third Massing Model



# Current Proposed Massing Model



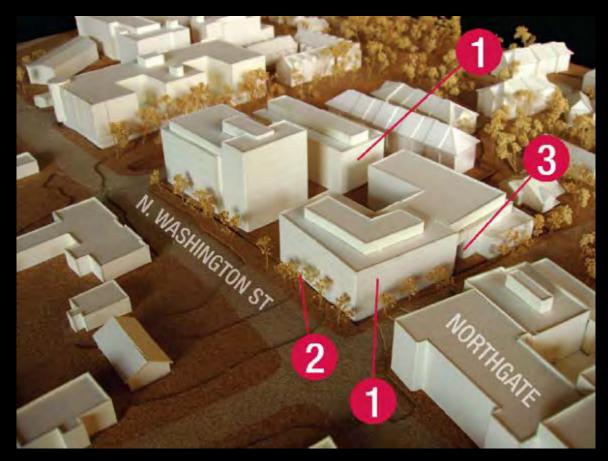
# Falls Church Gateway Today



Falls Church Gateway (Previous heights)



### Revisions to Proposed Project



- 1. Residential buildings lowered by two stories. Maximum building height is 55 feet; therefore no height bonus required for residential component.
- 2. The street-level of Building B has been converted to be entirely commercial space.
- Pedestrian portal has been expanded to be two stories in height.

NEW COMMERICAL RATIO =30.7%

# Falls Church Gateway Proposed (Revisions)



### Site Concept: Office | Retail | Residential | T.O.D.

#### City's Gateway:

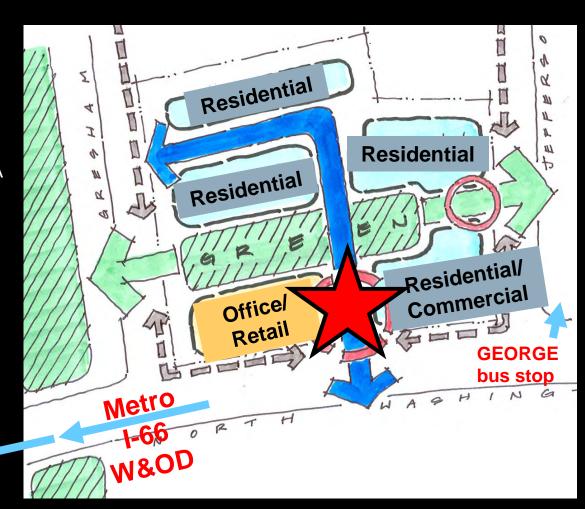
Strong architectural statement

#### <u>Mixed-Use Redevelopment Site:</u>

- Mix of housing types
- Commercial office upgrade to Class A (30.7% commercial)
- Neighborhood Serving Retail

# <u>Transit-Oriented Development/</u> <u>Smart Growth:</u>

- Access to multi-modal transportation
- Designed in street and block mode
- Underground parking



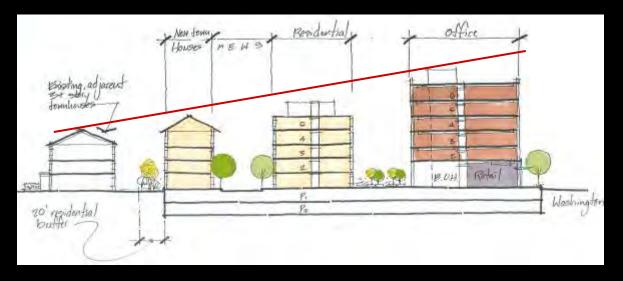
## Mixed Use Program: Office | Retail | Residential

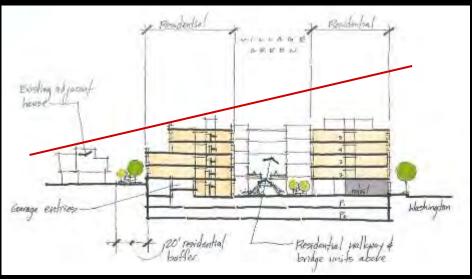
KEY	USE	SQ. FT.	UNITS
A	OFFICE	68,715 SF	
	RETAIL / (COMMERCIAL)	8,707 SF	
B & C	RESIDENTIAL	98,225 SF	
	COMMERCIAL / (RETAIL)	7,321 SF	87
D	RESIDENTIAL	55,975 SF	63
Е	TOWNHOUSES + (w/ garden – level units)	37,480 SF	10



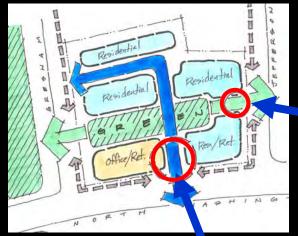


# Scale Transition to Neighborhood





### Pedestrian | Neighborhood Connections





Connections through Site

Jefferson Street Elevation Sketch: Portal to Village Green



Washington Street Elevation Sketch: Gateway Feature



Portal View to Green + Gateway Feature

## Village Green Concept



Mews Street Concept



"It is important to establish additional connections from corridors directly to adjacent residential neighborhoods, including possibly the creation of smaller, adjacent plazas or semi-open areas to draw people to and from the busy streets".

- Falls Church Design Guidelines p.26



Village Green Precedent

Falls Church Gateway (Previous heights)



# Falls Church Gateway (Revisions)



### Falls Church Gateway

### Smart Growth Alliance Recognition

Smart Growth Recognition Program

#### Smart Growth Alliance Members

- ULI Washington
- Chesapeake Bay Foundation
- Greater Washington Board of Trade
- Coalition for Smarter Growth
- Metropolitan Washington Builders' Council



Project received Smart Growth Alliance Recognition

Recognition criteria include:

- Location
- Density, Design, and Diversity of Uses
- Transportation, Mobility, Accessibility
- Environment
- Community Benefits

No developer has been recognized more than

**Akridge** 

### Project Attributes | City Objectives

#### **Create a Sense of Place - Mixed Use**

Integrated <u>urban village</u> with a true mix of uses including **30.7%** of space dedicated to Class A commercial use.

#### Create Pedestrian Connections

"... important to <u>establish additional</u> <u>connections ... to adjacent residential</u> <u>neighborhoods</u>, including creation of smaller, adjacent plazas or semi-open areas to draw people to and from the busy streets".

#### **Create Gateways**

Convey a "dramatic sense of entry and departure from Falls Church" with an <u>architectural statement</u> on North Washington Street.

#### <u>Transition from Commercial to</u> <u>Residential Areas</u>

Recognize the clustered and single-family residential neighborhood behind the project site by **stepping down heights** from North Washington Street.



#### City of Falls Church Design Guidelines

### Project Attributes | City Objectives

# **Transit-Oriented Development/ Smart Growth:**

- Access to multi-modal transportation (Metro, GEORGE Bus, W&OD, I-66)
- Zipcar & shared parking
- Upgrade to full traffic signal at Gresham Place

#### **Commercial Office Upgrade:**

 Class-A office space with 30.7% of the project dedicated to commercial use

#### **Diversity of Housing Types:**

- Multi-family, townhouse and garden-level
- Cash contribution to affordable housing fund that will provide significantly more affordable units that if provided on-site

#### **Environmental Enhancements:**

- Green roof on office building & village green
- Excavation and removal of contaminated soil caused by nearby automotive garages
- Reduction of impervious area of the site
- Improved stormwater management + quality
- LEED design elements



### Project Attributes | City Objectives

### Fiscal Impact

"Essential to the character and well-being of the city, new development should produce substantial positive net new commercial and residential revenue to the city."

- Zoning Ordinance Section 38-4 (F)

Existing Real Estate Assessment \$13 Million (no change)

Projected Real Estate Assessment
Over \$87 to \$107 Million

Existing Net Annual Fiscal Revenue \$110,000 (no change)

Projected Net Annual Fiscal Revenue \$480,000 to \$680,000 (Over \$200,000 per acre)

Equivalent Real Estate Property Tax

Represents approximately \$100 less in annual property tax for the typical Falls Church homeowner

